

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the section “Cross-Reference to Related Application” beginning at page 1, line 2 of the specification as follows:

-- Cross-Reference to Related Application Applications

This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/504,400, filed September 19, 2003, the entire disclosure of which is hereby incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. This application is also related to U.S. Patent Application No. 10/802,614 entitled “Update of a Tree-Based Database” by David M. Ziemann and John F. Samuel, and to U.S. Patent Application No. 10/802,606 entitled “Processing of Tree Data Structures” by David M. Ziemann and John F. Samuel, both of which are filed concurrently herewith on March 17, 2004 and incorporated herein by reference in their entirety.--